## **DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL-RESCISSIONS/Savings for Deficit Reduction**

SUBJECT: Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act . . . H.R. 1158. Byrd amendment No. 423 to the Hatfield substitute amendment No. 420.

## **ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 99-0**

**SYNOPSIS:** As introduced, H.R. 1158, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act, will provide \$5.360 billion in emergency appropriations for disaster assistance, and will rescind \$17.188 billion for various Departments and agencies.

The Hatfield substitute amendment would strike the provisions of H.R. 1158 and insert in lieu thereof the text of S. 617, as reported, which would provide \$6.700 billion in disaster assistance (the amount requested by the President), would rescind \$13.286 billion for various Departments and agencies, and would provide for expedited salvage timber sales on Federal lands for fiscal years 1995 and 1996.

The Byrd amendment to the Hatfield substitute amendment would provide that any savings from this Act would be used to reduce the deficit. Specifically, it would require the lowering of the budget authority and outlay discretionary spending caps of the Budget Act for fiscal years 1995 through 1998 by the amount of any savings resulting from this Act, and would provide that reductions in outlays and in the discretionary spending limits would not be used to offset all or part of an increase in direct spending or a decrease in receipts.

## Those favoring the amendment contended:

The Byrd amendment is straightforward. It would prevent using the savings from this Act for anything other than deficit reduction. If Senator Byrd had not offered it, Senator Domenici would have offered his amendment which would have had exactly the same effect. In other words, this amendment has very strong bipartisan support. Senators are determined to lower the deficit, and they intend to use the savings from this bill for that purpose. Some Senators also oppose any tax cuts, and intend their vote on the Byrd

(See other side) **YEAS (99)** NAYS (0) NOT VOTING (1) **Democrats Democrats** Republican Republicans Republicans Democrats (54 or 100%) (45 or 100%) (0 or 0%) (0 or 0%)(0)**(1)** Dorgan-<sup>2AY</sup> Abraham Hutchison Akaka Inouve Ashcroft Baucus Johnston Jeffords Kennedy Bennett Biden Kassebaum Bond Bingaman Kerrey Brown Kempthorne Boxer Kerry Burns Bradley Kohl Kyl Campbell Lott Breaux Lautenberg Chafee Leahy Lugar Bryan Mack Bumpers Levin Coats Cochran McCain Lieberman Bvrd Cohen McConnell Conrad Mikulski Coverdell Murkowski Moseley-Braun Daschle Moynihan Craig Nickles Dodd D'Amato Packwood Exon Murray DeWine Feingold Pressler Nıınn Dole Roth Feinstein Pell EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE: Domenici Santorum Ford Pryor Faircloth Shelby Glenn Reid 1—Official Buisiness Simpson Graham Frist Robb 2—Necessarily Absent Gorton Rockefeller Smith Harkin 3—Illness Gramm Snowe Heflin Sarbanes 4—Other Grams Specter Hollings Simon Grassley Wellstone Stevens SYMBOLS: Gregg Thomas AY—Announced Yea Hatch Thompson AN-Announced Nay Hatfield Thurmond PY-Paired Yea Helms Warner PN-Paired Nay

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amendment to serve notice of this opposition to the House (the House is reportedly considering waiving the budget rules so it can use discretionary program savings to pay for tax cuts). These Senators' opposition to tax cuts is heightened by their belief that the tax cuts being considered by the House will favor the wealthy, and that the spending cuts under consideration will hurt the poor. Other Senators totally disagree with this class-warfare mentality, but agree that the savings in this Act should be used for deficit reduction. Many of these Senators believe that the tax burden on Americans is excessive and should be reduced, and that the preferred means of paying for those tax cuts is with entitlement cuts. The one view that most Senators share in common, though, is that the savings from this Act should be used to reduce the deficit. Therefore, this amendment should carry overwhelmingly.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.